

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

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R 281714Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6021

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BAGHDAD

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: GW, SA, IS, PFOR

SUBJECT: FRG FOREIGN MINISTER OUTLINES MIDDLE EAST

SETTLEMENT

SUMMARY: THE FRG FOREIGN MINISTER HAS SAID THAT WITHIN
THE FRAMEWORK OF A PEACE SETTLEMENT, ISRAEL SHOULD
WITHDRAW FROM ALL TERRITORY OCCUPIED IN 1967 AND THAT
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THE PALESTINIANS SHOULD HAVE THE RIGHT TO ESTABLISH

THEIR OWN "STATE AUTHORITY" IN THE AREA TO BE EVACUATED BY ISRAEL. THE FOREIGN OFFICE DENIED THAT GENSCHER'S REMARKS REPRESENT A CHANGE IN FRG MIDDLE EAST POLICY. END SUMMARY.

1. AT A DINNER FOR SAUDI ARABIAN FOREIGN MINISTER PRINCE FAISAL ON JANUARY 21, FRG FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER OUTLINED THE WEST GERMAN POSITION ON A SOLUTION FOR THE ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT. REAFFIRMING THE FRG'S SUPPORT FOR SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 242 AND 338 AND FOR THE NOVEMBER 1973 DECLARATION BY THE EC FOREIGN MINISTERS, GENSCHER MADE THE FOLLOWING REMARKS: QUOTE:

IT IS OUR OPINION THAT A PEACE SETTLEMENT IN THE NEAR EAST MUST TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE FOLLOWING PRINCIPLES:

RECOGNITION OF THE SOVEREIGNTY AND THE TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY AND INDEPENDENCE OF EVERY STATE IN THE AREA AND THEIR RIGHT TO LIVE IN PEACE WITHIN SECURE AND RECOGNIZED BORDERS.

THE INADMISSABILITY OF THE ACQUISITION OF TERRITORY THROUGH FORCE.

THE NECESSITY FOR ISRAEL TO END THE TERRITORIAL OCCUPATION WHICH IT HAS MAINTAINED SINCE THE 1967 CONFLICT.

RECOGNITION THAT WITH THE CREATION OF A JUST AND LASTING PEACE, THE LEGITIMATE RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIANS MUST BE RECOGNIZED. END QUOTE.

2. GENSCHER CONTINUED, "CONCERNING THE CENTRAL QUESTION OF THE CONFLICT, NAMELY THE LEGITIMATE RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE AND THE RIGHT OF ISRAEL TO EXIST, THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC HAS ALREADY DECLARED AT THE 29TH UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY THAT THE LEGITIMATE RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE INCLUDE THE RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION AND THE RIGHT TO ESTABLISH THEIR OWN AUTHORITY IN THE AREA TO BE EVACUATED BY ISRAEL

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WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF A SOLUTION TO THE CONFLICT. WE FURTHER BELIEVE THAT THE LEGITIMATE RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE AND THE RIGHT OF ISRAEL TO EXIST IN SECURE AND RECOGNIZED BORDERS, HAVE THE SAME PRIORITY AND SHOULD NOT HINDER EACH OTHER. THAT MEANS THAT A SOLUTION IS ONLY POSSIBLE IF THE PALESTINIANS RECOGNIZE THE RIGHT OF ISRAEL TO EXIST AND ISRAEL RECOGNIZES THE RIGHT OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE TO

SELF-DETERMINATION."

3. GENSCHER ENDED HIS COMMENTS ON THE ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT BY SAYING THAT "THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC WELCOMES EVERY STEP WHICH BRINGS OUR NEIGHBORING REGION IN THE NEAR EAST A STEP CLOSER TO PEACE. WE ARE READY TO DO WHATEVER WE CAN, BE IT BILATERALLY OR IN COOPERATION WITH OUR EUROPEAN PARTNERS, TO BRING SUCH A PEACE TO REALITY."

4. THE FOLLOWING DAY, DURING A JOINT PRESS CONFERENCE WITH PRINCE FAISAL, GENSCHER REPEATED THE SAME

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SENTIMENTS, BUT THIS TIME HE SAID THAT THE PALESTINIANS SHOULD HAVE THE RIGHT TO ESTABLISH THEIR OWN STATE RPT STATEJAUTHORITY IN THE AREA TO BE EVACUATED BY ISRAEL.

5. THE FOLLOWING DAY THE FOREIGN OFFICE SPOKESMAN SAID THE FOREIGN MINISTER'S STATEMENTS DID NOT REPRESENT A

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CHANGE BUT WERE ONLY AN ATTEMPT TO STATE THE FRG'S NEAR EAST POLICY MORE PRECISELY. THE FOREIGN OFFICE DIRECTOR FOR THE ARABIAN PENINSULA ALSO TOLD EMBASSY OFFICER THAT GENSCHER'S REMARKS DID NOT INDICATE A CHANGE IN POLICY. AND, ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, GENSCHER MADE THE SAME ASSURANCES TO THE ISRAELI AMBASSADOR. THE FOREIGN OFFICE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT WITH A PEACE SETTLEMENT, MUTUAL ADJUSTMENT OF BORDERS SHOULD NOT BE EXCLUDED.

6. THERE WAS SOME CRITICISM OF GENSCHER FOR HIS REMARKS, CDU LEADER VON WEIZSAECKER CHARACTERIZED GENSCHER'S POSITION AS "TOO ONE SIDED." AND THE CDU FOREIGN POLICY SPOKESMAN IN THE BUNDESTAG SAID THAT GENSCHER'S REMARKS WERE "UNNECESSARY AND UNHELPFUL."

7. COMMENT: WE SEE NO REASON TO DOUBT THE FOREIGN OFFICE'S ASSERTION THAT FRG MIJGE EAST POLICY HAS NOT CHANGED. GENSCHER HAS, HOWEVER, USED FAISAL'S VISIT TO GIVE HIS MOST DETAILED AND FORTHRIGHT PUBLIC DESCRIPTION OF THE FRG'S CONCEPT OF A FAIR AND WORKABLE SETTLEMENT OF THE ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT. IN SO DOING, HE WAS BOUND TO AROUSE CONTROVERSY IN AN AREA IN WHICH THE FRG HAS, TO DATE, MAINTAINED A LOW PROFILE. END COMMENT.

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